

Judge Bethurum Speaks

Kennedy's Treachery and False Charges Exposed

Judge B. J. Bethurum again addressed the voters of Clinton County in the court house today in behalf of his candidacy for Circuit Judge. The court house was crowded, even in standing space. W. A. Dicken, Cashier of Citizens Bank, of Albany, an Chairman of the Republican Committee of Clinton County, introduced Judge Bethurum. Mr. Dicken said in part: "When I was a young man, the Republican Party of Clinton County honored me by electing me as Sheriff, and I have never asked for any other office or held any other office and do not want any other office, but I am grateful to the Republican party and ever will be. Six years ago I supported Kennedy for the nomination for the office of Circuit Judge and did everything in my power for him, after which he left the Republican Party and undertook and did aid the Democrat. Party against the Republican Party that had honored both him and myself. And being Chairman of the Republican Committee of the county, I feel it my duty to my party, as well as myself, to aid in the selection of true Republicans for office, and I would feel that way, if I was not Chairman, and I am sure that Judge Bethurum is a true and loyal Republican, and ever since Kennedy betrayed the Republican Party, I have been and am still supporting Judge Bethurum as a loyal Republican."

Judge Bethurum then proceeded to place Kennedy where he belongs, in the ranks of the Democratic party as its chief slanderer and mud slinger. He showed that Kennedy had bolted the Republican party eight times and was now laying his plans to bolt him again after he is nominated at the coming primary. He exposed Kennedy's unreasonable, unscrupulous, wicked and false charges among which was the false statement made by Kennedy in his paper, a little campaign sheet that he owns and publishes at Somerset, and which was started by him on December 10th, last, for this campaign only, named "Pulaski County Republican," for the purpose of deceiving Republicans, to the effect that Judge Bethurum had been reversed in sixty per cent. of the cases that have been taken to the Court of Appeals from this District. He showed that the record, which Kennedy has been carrying around and claiming to be certified to by the Clerk of the Court of Appeals, is nothing more nor less than a fix-up of his own, and that the name of the Clerk of the Court of Appeals is not in it anywhere. Judge Bethurum now has this document in his possession and showed it to his audience. Kennedy, while campaigning in Rockcastle County, lost it, and friends of Judge Bethurum found it. Kennedy admitted in his tirade in the forenoon that this is the only record that he has and said that Judge Bethurum should be courteous enough to return it to him; that he paid \$10 for it and that it is his. Judge Bethurum said that he proposed to keep it because it demonstrated beyond question that Kennedy has tried to deceive the people with a bogus and fixed up affair claimed to be certified to by the Clerk of the Court of Appeals. Judge Bethurum offered to withdraw from the race if the name of Mr. Speck, the Clerk of the Court of Appeals, could be found anywhere on it. He showed that the writing on this thing they called a record was done by Judge Jarvis and proved by Uncle Tom Stephenson that it is Judge Jarvis' writing. The Judge further called attention to the fact that no criminal or Commonwealth cases appeared on the fix-up called a record, and that many cases referred to in the campaign sheet of Kennedy, published at Somerset, and marked "Reversed," were not reversed and read from the published volumes of the Kentucky Reports to prove this. Judge Bethurum stated that an examination of his record would show that he had been affirmed in at least eighty-five per cent. of all the cases that have been carried to the Court of Appeals in the past twelve years from his District.

The Judge took up the charges made by Kennedy as to the trials of Green and Mize and showed that this was a foul attempt to destroy the people's Circuit Judge, and to weaken him in the confidence of the people, by misrepresentation and deceit. These charges crumbled and disappeared after the Judge explained these trials to the people. The explanation of Judge Bethurum, coupled with the statement by Judge Flippin, Commonwealth's Attorney, which he read, completely wiped out the false charges that Kennedy made about these cases. Judge Flippin, he said, was elected by the people and paid a salary to attend the trial of all Commonwealth cases and to know whether or not the State was fairly treated, and Flippin said that there was no merit in any of the

charges that are peddled by his opponent, and that this is sufficient vindication for the Judge and all that the people would require.

The Judge brushed aside the other charges that Kennedy was making, and said that having been so completely exposed on those discussed, the people would believe nothing that he would say.

He took up and showed plainly that the three letters that were handed around the first day of Court were all forgeries, and that the alleged signatures were all different and were evidently written by different men. He denied having written or signed any of them. He stated that organized labor endorsed him after the latter letter was published, and that after its publication the labor men at Somerset, knowing that this letter is a forgery, had re-endorsed him in ringing terms.

In reference to the forged letter to the Parole Board, he read a letter from that office which said no such letter was on file in that office, nor in the Governor's office. The Cox letter was taken up and he said he never heard of it before. Judge Smith was convinced that it was spurious, and this, after he had compared it with the genuine signature of the Judge of recent date, and with its signature immediately after the date of the letter and shown upon its face. He said that he was authorized by Judge Smith, who was present, to say that he, Smith, had made the comparisons, and that, in his opinion, the letter was a forgery.

Judge Bethurum then launched into a discussion of Kennedy's political record. He charged that Kennedy is the most notorious bolter that ever disturbed the peace and harmony of the party in this State. He had bolted at least eight Republican tickets within the last fifteen years. He laid particular stress upon his treachery and disloyalty in the race for Circuit Judge in 1915, after he was defeated in the primary, and in the county races in Pulaski County in 1917. The Judge had affidavits and read them, showing that Kennedy supported Judge Cress, the Democrat, for Circuit Judge in 1915, and it is known that Cress is in Albany today for the Kennedy. But the betrayal of the Republican Party in Pulaski County in 1917 was the most gigantic attempt to destroy the Republican Party that was ever made by one calling himself a Republican. For six weeks he made speeches against the party nominees, and on the election day went to an outlying district in Pulaski County and handled the funds and acted as Democratic precinct worker for the Democratic ticket. Then after the smoke of battle had cleared away he went to Democratic headquarters, or to the Chairman of the Democratic Committee in Pulaski County, and accepted free of charge a suit of clothes, hat, shoes and a complete outfit, and is now coming to the Republicans in Democratic clothing, asking their support. He said that if this could not be established beyond doubt, he would withdraw from the race. He asked those present to call up Ferrell, the Democratic Chairman at Somerset, and if he had misrepresented the facts, he would withdraw from the race.

Judge Bethurum was followed by Hous, Leonard Meece and H. H. Smith, who made fine addresses in behalf of Judge Bethurum. Mr. Meece spoke of being on the Republican ticket in Pulaski County in 1917, when Kennedy bolted the entire ticket. He said that he won the nomination by 1,800 majority and was then subjected to a hard race in November, because of the disloyalty and treachery of Kennedy, who spoke and worked against the ticket and afterward accepted the clothing as explained by Judge Bethurum. Mr. Meece made a fine impression on his audience, and made an eloquent and forceful speech. He is still Superintendent of Schools in Pulaski County, and has been re-elected to that office for another term.

Mr. Smith made a good speech for Judge Bethurum. He said that he came here and spoke in this county six years ago for Kennedy, and that he made the worst mistake of his life by doing this, and was here now to apologize to them for making the speeches six years ago, and to say that Kennedy is unfit for the office of Circuit Judge, and that Bethurum's record is unassailable for honesty and fair dealing as an upright Circuit Judge. Mr. Smith greatly pleased the crowd with his flights of oratory. This was a great day for Judge Bethurum in Albany, and all feel good over the outcome and say that the old Judge will certainly carry this county by a good majority.—The New Era.



CAM MULLINS

As this is the last issue of the Signal which can reach the majority of the voters in the county I wish to leave a few thoughts and facts with you for your study during the few days just preceding our primary election. In my announcement for the nomination for County Judge I said I would make this record my record as a County Officer.

I now wish to call the attention of the voters to the achievement of the present Fiscal Court. We have bought right of way to the amount of \$4226.00, we have built bridges which cost \$14,498.82, we have also bought a home for the jailer which cost \$1265.00, we have built a county garage at the expense of \$358.00 the repairing of the jail, which was condemned by the Grand Jury, water works for the jail and Court House, concrete walks and the erecting of two convict camps cost \$6502.16. On top of this when a community met us fifty-fifty we have spent \$5579.00 for the purpose of furthering the "Good Roads Movement" of the County, making a total of \$33,438.98. In addition to this we have kept up the current expenses of our county and paid the interest on the indebtedness which we inherited. Along the same line, I might add, that under the present administration there has been contracted \$357,000.00 Federal and State Aid projects, a part of which has been completed.

When we started in our administration the county owed in the neighborhood of \$28,000.00. Now taking Mr. Bowman's statement as true, just for the sake of argument and positively nothing else would not our administration be considered a business administration?

Mr. Bowman knows that these are all facts, and had we been so extravagant as he has been putting before the people, do you think it is the right kind of a man to be Judge of our County? Do you think a County Clerk, as clean, upright and moral as he would have you believe he is: the man who issues the County Vouchers and know what each voucher is for, would sit idly by and allow such extravagance to run four years without calling at least the people's attention, if not the Grand Jury? No. This is all "Tommy-rot." Had he wanted to be fair he would have called some of the many permanent improvements to the voters attention. The only one I have heard of his mentioning is the bridge and approach across Gauley to connect with the Dixie Highway. At Scaffold Cane he told that it cost \$40,000.00 when the records show, and he knows it, that it only cost \$3258.91. Only a remark of extravagance of \$36,741.09 to the people which was never spent.

Mr. Bowman has repeatedly called the "Liquor Question" into the race. He is a county officer and has in his office as deputy the Police Judge of Mt. Vernon; why does he not call his attention to these facts? He knows that it is not my duty to POLICE the county and try them too. He also knows that the present "Prohibition Laws" only allow me to hold an examining trial, by which I could not possibly do more than hold them to the Grand Jury. He also knows that I have

you an excellent officer as clerk of the county, but, does it follow that he would make as good a County Judge? Many a time you have seen a man make an excellent clerk but didn't make good as a manager.

Now just a word to the ladies. I am informed that Mr. Bowman and his speakers have stated that I did not want the vote of any woman. This is a reflection on the intelligence of any audience. He nor his speakers had any authority to make such a statement and nothing I have said or done could be so construed. I know I have done nothing during my term of office that should cause you to vote against me and I wait you to give this article your thoughtful consideration until August 6th and if you do I will be satisfied with your decision. My opponent, Mr. Bowman, so I understand, is having an endorsement circulated among the ladies of Mt. Vernon and my guess is, when you read it, most of them that have signed will be members of Charley Davis' and Bill Sparks' church as they are considered around Mt. Vernon his managers, directors and supporters. Naturally I would not have their support as I am not in the AUTOMOBILE class. In spite of this fact I am going to continue to build roads for them to ride over.

Just another thought before I close in regard to the road business. There has been more road work done under my administration than any other County Judge who preceded me. This has been made possible by my cooperating with the State Road Department and working faithfully that nothing would hinder their progress. We now have around \$30,000.00 worth of road machinery and are just getting into shape to build roads. Elect me your County Judge for the next four years and I will show you how to build roads.

Thanking my friends for the interest they are showing in my race and soliciting a continuance thereof until after August 6th, I am, Your faithful servant' Cam Mullins

STOP, LOOK and LISTEN BEFORE YOU CROSS

This means pure bred, dyed-in-the-bone Republicanism. It is said by the democrats that H. C. Kennedy is going to run Judge B. J. Bethurum a close race for Circuit Judge, in this county, this time. We can not believe one word of this. No, you can't make us believe the republicans of this county will ever let our county boy, who is so worthy and deserving, go down in defeat, to our dishonor and everlasting shame, and give H. C. Kennedy, that unworthy man, and disloyal, make believe alone would see to that. Yes, and the good women will doubly see to it, for you cannot fool a good woman with a man looking for notoriety and new creeds and trying every side of life; and all his plans the Gospel, but found the Gospel wrong. He wanted to put in new creeds and get a little notoriety out of it. Yes, he wanted to do that so bad that he wrote a book on Baptism, condemning the Bible on baptism by saying that women who went down into the water to be baptized, as all people who believe in Christian Baptism do, did it in shame and indecency to themselves. Well Mr. Kennedy she will never, fool a woman. She knows when she reads her Bible it is no disgrace for her and her daughter to humble themselves to the commands of Christ and go down in the water and be baptized by an humble servant of the Lord, and they know it would be a disgrace to vote for a man that would condemn it.

Now, Mr. Kennedy saw himself a failure in the ministry of the Gospel with his new fads and ideas on baptism. It seems then Mr. Kennedy said to himself, "I know what I can do, I can go behind the bar and sell whisky to women's husbands and sons. They can only say that didn't know that the women were still after him. They were constantly making a flit upon whisky until they succeeded in getting local option in the district where Kennedy was operating a whisky business. There was poor Kennedy out of business again and the women very much responsible for it.

Well, Kennedy had to find his way into another business. "O, yes, I will just make a lawyer and seek whom I may devour, and I will get my hands on all their throats some day." So Kennedy has preyed upon the poor and feeble minded people as a lawyer, and jumped from pillar to post for a long place in political circles, and poor fellow, he has jumped though he can see himself being kicked with six thousand women's sharp toed shoes, two thousand from Rockcastle County on the 6th day of August. He knows they have got sense enough to do it and God on her Christian life, and when Kennedy calls upon them to make him with the full power to set him down so hard that he will see twelve thousand Kennedy as he will return to his home with his final reward, forever and ever.

Faithfully yours, W.M. Bullock

Getting Nearer the Truth

We desire to call your attention to the opinion of the Court of Appeals in the McBeath case which will be found on another page of this issue. In a campaign like the present, when a candidate's conduct or qualification enters into the discussion, whatever may be said, is at once branded as a campaign lie and let it pass. This can not be passed so lightly. The opinion is copied from the record and clearly show the conduct of the man toward a poor, sick, old colored man.

Any judge is liable to make mistakes. We have heard the venerable Judge Morrow say that the Judges of the Court of Appeals had a wonderful advantage over the Circuit Judge in that and study over the problems that come before him, while the on. Hence his mistakes must be corrected by the higher court. Take any view of Judge Bethurum's record and it is to be commended by any fair-minded man.

In the first statement issued by the Kennedy campaign committee it said about 60 per cent. of the cases that went to the Court of Appeals were reversed. Now the statement published says that out of 58 cases before the higher court 31 have been reversed and 27 confirmed. That is a fine record. Let them revise it again, each time they do so, makes it nearer the truth.—Somerset Commonwealth.

Another Fake Letter

The Commonwealth is amazed at the conduct of those who are fighting Judge Bethurum. The letter which is being published and scattered against Judge Bethurum, in which an attempt is being made to create the impression that he requested that Lee Meece be paroled, is another base forgery. Any one familiar at all with the handwriting of our Circuit Judge will readily see that this is another campaign trick of the opposition for campaign purposes. No such letter as that was ever filed with the Parole Board. The following letter was received by Judge Bethurum June 24th, from the State Board of Charities and Corrections, in answer to a letter written by Judge Bethurum to the said Board on June 22nd, 1921:

"June 24th, 1921.

"Hon. B. J. Bethurum,
"Circuit Judge, 28th Judicial District,
"Somerset, Ky.

"Re: Lee Meece.

"In acknowledgement of your letter of June 22nd, in which you state that you have been informed that there is a statement on file in this office, purporting to have been signed by you, recommending parole for Lee Meece, I beg to advise that no such statement is in our files. I have made inquiry in the Governor's office, and find that no such statement is on file in that office.

"Your letter will be filed with the records of Meece, and brought to the attention of the Committee when his case is considered.

"Very truly yours,

"JOSEPH P. BYERS,

"Commissioner of Public Institutions."

"JPB—ALS

This shows that no such letter as is being circulated has ever been filed with the records in Meece's case, and that none is there now. If one had been filed and withdrawn, Mr. Byers would have known of it, and made some mention of it, besides no department connected with the State Government would allow any person to withdraw an original letter concerning any sort of public business. The most they do is to give copies of such letters.

The letter referred to is doing the opposition a great deal more harm than it is doing Judge Bethurum. It is doing the Judge no harm at all. The fraud is too transparent, and the trick too old to trap intelligent people.

All the misrepresentations and charges, as well as all the forgeries that come from the other side will be met and promptly answered, and in the meantime no one will allow himself to be deceived by the tactics of the opposition. More of the same sort of rot will be peddled by them during the next four weeks. Republicans, pay no attention to this line of matter that the enemies of Judge Bethurum will use during the few weeks remaining before the primary. They are getting desperate and will do anything on earth to defeat him. But they mistake the mettle of the people. Judge Bethurum will sweep this district by the largest majority ever given a candidate, and when he does, this will convince the opposition that hereafter they had better be careful in the selection of their material for use in a campaign for office.—Somerset Commonwealth.

Judge Flippin COMMONWEALTH'S ATTORNEY Vindicates Judge Bethurum

I have been Commonwealth's Attorney for this district for the past five and a half years, and as such have conducted the trial of all criminal cases for the Commonwealth in the Circuit Court. I have tried these cases of course before Judge Bethurum as the Judge, I think that I know when a fair trial of a case is given, and in justice to Judge Bethurum, whose record is attacked, I must say that he has impressed me throughout my term as Attorney for the Commonwealth, as being perfectly fair and impartial and desiring to see the law enforced in every case. As Commonwealth's Attorney I am bound to say that Judge Bethurum has given me fair treatment. I am familiar with the criticism being offered in the Green and Mize cases and I know that there is no merit in these contentions. The Judge gave the usual instructions in both of these cases, and the juries heard and disposed of the cases, which they had they power to do, without interference of the Judge.

W. N. FLIPPIN.

Commonwealth's Attorney, 28 District.



VOTE FOR
John Clontz
FOR Jailer